

Post reports of almost 400 police-involved shooting fatalities in the first five months of 2015, all should agree that the time for bipartisan action is long overdue.

The Law Enforcement Trust and Integrity Act is designed to provide incentives for local police organizations to voluntarily adopt standards to ensure that incidents of deadly force or misconduct will be minimized through appropriate management and training protocols and properly investigated, should they occur. The bill authorizes the Department of Justice to work cooperatively with independent accreditation, law enforcement and community-based organizations to further develop and refine accreditation standards, and further authorizes the Attorney General to make grants to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of obtaining accreditation from certified law enforcement accreditation organizations.

Beyond the human toll created by law enforcement accountability issues, there remains the fiscal impact created by the high cost of litigation settlements for police abuse claims. Currently, there are no federally recognized minimum standards for operating a law enforcement agency. The ad hoc nature of police management has accordingly left many officers and agencies in the dark about how to cope with changes in their communities. While most cities fail to systematically track the cost of litigation, the cost reports for major cities have proven staggering. In New York City alone, during Mayor Michael Bloomberg's three term tenure, NYPD payouts were in excess of \$1 billion for policing claims. For small departments, the cost of a single high profile incident could prove crippling in its impact on public safety.

While the Department of Justice has a range of criminal and civil authority to address policing issues, the Civil Rights Division will never have the resources necessary to investigate more than a small fraction of those departments engaged in unconstitutional conduct, even with the enhanced funding and task force authority granted by this legislation. Through the support of a robust accreditation regime, like that existing in healthcare, Congress can ensure that all communities have the best trained and managed police departments. Only by establishing acceptable police operations standards can we begin to preemptively address issues like use of force and heal the rifts within our communities.

Media reports from Baltimore and other cities depicting confrontations between protestors and their police departments illustrate the current divide between law enforcement and the communities they police. In the past years, cities from New York to Cincinnati and Miami to Los Angeles have experienced unrest following controversial use of force incidents by their police. Absent a climate of trust and accountability, community needs are not served and the jobs of the police officers become more difficult and dangerous.

The energies of Congress should be focused on the adoption of legislative priorities that address the substance of law enforcement management and strengthen the current battery of tools available to sanction misconduct. As a Congress we have been enthusiastic about supporting programs designed to get officers on the street. We must be just as willing to support programs designed to train and manage them after they get there. The current national climate requires decisive ac-

tion to implement solutions. Out of respect for all who have lost their lives over the last nine months—both law enforcement and civilian—I hope you will join Ms. JACKSON LEE and myself in supporting legislation that initiates the reforms necessary to restore public trust and accountability to law enforcement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2015*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 375.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

#### HOUSE MAJORITY TURNING ITS BACK ON COMPETITIVENESS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I and many business leaders are having trouble fathoming this foolhardy decision by House Republicans to allow the Export-Import Bank to expire.

I thought my Republican colleagues wanted to support small businesses and create jobs.

Well, last year, the Bank helped 121 Virginia businesses, and thousands more nationwide, reach new global markets with their American-made products and services. Nearly 90% of its loans benefit small businesses, and those loans supported 164,000 jobs, most of which had higher-than-average wages.

I also thought my Republican colleagues wanted to help reduce the deficit.

The Bank returned \$675 million to the Treasury last year and more than \$1 billion in each of the previous two years.

By allowing the Bank to expire, House Republicans are casting aside a program that has consistently created jobs, strengthened small businesses, and helped reduce the deficit.

Every other industrialized nation has an export-import bank, and this unilateral disavowal cedes American competitiveness.

Mr. Speaker, there is a bipartisan majority that supports the Ex-Im Bank. I urge you to bring up a clean extension and let the House work its will.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. SUSAN MARTIN'S SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2015*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Susan Martin for her seven years of service as President of Eastern Michigan University and her long career as a public servant to the State of Michigan. Dr. Martin's commitment to EMU and higher education has

resulted in tremendous improvement for the university's campus and greatly enriched the collegiate experience of thousands of students. Dr. Martin's long career in public service reveals her dedication to the betterment of the State of Michigan and her capacity to inspire others to achieve academic excellence.

Dr. Martin's passion for higher education began when she worked as an administrator at Grand Valley State University. For 18 years, she worked in several faculty and administrative positions, including Assistant and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, Special Assistant to the Provost, and Executive Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. She later served as the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at The University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Dr. Martin's seven years as the first female president of Eastern Michigan University are marked by many accomplishments. Under her leadership, the university has experienced enrollment growth, the expansion of the Honors College, increased financial aid assistance, student-focused academic advising, collaboration with public safety agencies in the surrounding community, the creation of living and learning spaces, and massive construction projects.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Dr. Susan Martin for her seven years as president of Eastern Michigan University and her dedication to quality, affordable, public education. I thank her for her leadership, and wish her many years of success.

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. GLADYS OPELOUSAS

#### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, reaching the age of 90 years is a remarkable milestone; and

Whereas, Ms. Gladys Opelousas was born on August 30, 1925 in Marks, Mississippi and today she is celebrating reaching that milestone of reaching 90 years of age; and

Whereas, Ms. Opelousas has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; she is a devoted aunt and sister that blesses the lives of others with her kindness and charm; and

Whereas, Ms. Opelousas is celebrating her 90th Birthday with family members and friends in Chicago, Illinois; and

Whereas, she celebrates a life of blessings and through her goodwill, communities across the nation have been enhanced; and

Whereas, the Lord has been her Shepherd throughout 90 years and she is leading by example a blessed life by serving as a faithful matriarch to her family and a precious jewel to our nation; and

Whereas, we are honored that she is celebrating the milestone of her birthday today with family that hail from the 4th District of Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Gladys Opelousas for an exemplary life which is an